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REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. All of the claims were reject under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by English. Claims 1 and 5 are currently amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Unlike the English technique which uses a centrally calculated mapping of positions of all devices to make control decisions, the presently claimed technique employs power level sensed by the devices in a given area. The technique of identifying positions of access points and controlling those access points through a central server is now well known. English, for example, teaches that the positioning network (1002) uses reference impulse radio units (1016) and a net controller (1018) to calculate positions of APs and mobile units via triangulation. (paragraph 0167). Some of the shortcomings of the English solution are that it does not scale well, it creates a single point of failure, and it requires new, special-purpose devices. The presently claimed invention distinguishes English because employing power level sensed by the devices themselves permits operation without the positioning network. In particular, the STA and AP operate together to autonomously adjust power by, for example, the AP prompting the STA to perform calculations to reduce power to a minimum level that permits acceptable performance. Hence, claim 1 distinguishes English in at least two ways: first by reciting "receiving a message from an access point, the message containing information about the access point's power level," and second by reciting "calculating, by the station, a transmission power level based at least in-part on the information in the message."

It should be noted that the claim rejections specifically recited in the Office Action do not correspond to the claims of this application, but rather to the claims of a different, contemporaneously filed application by the same Applicant. Applicant has therefore responded to

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the arguments which it appears the Office might have made if applying the reference to the claims of this application. For the same reason, the objections to the claims for informalities such as the term "another channel" are irrelevant because the claims do not use those terms. The informalities in the specification have been corrected as requested.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' Attorney at the number listed below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dec. 20, 2005  
Date

  
Holmes Anderson, Reg. No. 37,272  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)  
Steubing McGuinness & Manaras LLP  
125 Nagog Park  
Acton, MA 01720  
(978) 264-6664

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